

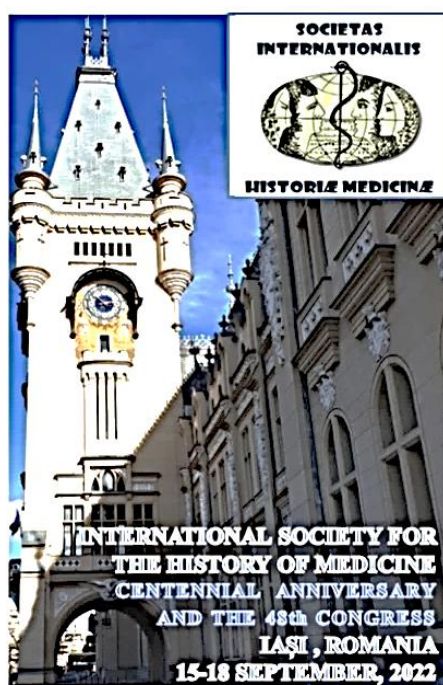
48th CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE

15-18 September, 2022

IASI – ROMANIA

Dana BARAN

“Grigore T. Popa” University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Iasi - Romania



From September 15 to 18, 2022, the 48th Congress of the centenary International Society for the History of Medicine (ISHM) was held in Iasi under the motto “Semper Altius” (*Always on top*), borrowed from the Society of Physicians and Naturalists of Iasi (1833). It was for the third time that the ISHM organised a Congress in Romania, after the 9th ISHM Congress, that took place in Bucharest in 1932, due to Dr. Victor Gomoiu, and the 22nd ISHM Congress hosted in Bucharest and Constantza in 1970, and

Corresponding author: Dana Baran
dana_baran@yahoo.com

Received September 16, 2022; Accepted September 22, 2022, Published September 30, 2022

Citation: Baran Dana: 48th CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE, 15-18 September, 2022, IASI – ROMANIA. Journal of Surgery [Jurnalul de chirurgie]. 2022; 18 (3): 259 – 262. DOI:10.7438/JSURG.2022.03.10

Copyright: © 2022 Dana Baran. This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.

presided by Professor Valeriu Bologa. Previous ISHM Congresses held in Romania aroused local and regional interest in medical historical studies, while enabling ISHM expansion towards Eastern European countries and the Balkans: a step forward to the internationalization of knowledge.

The Romanian Society for the History of Medicine (RSHM) was extremely honored to be part of the 48th ISHM Congress recently organized

<https://doi.org/10.3390/healthcare10101831> in Iasi, Romania. During its 93 years of activity, RSHM – founded on September 14th, 1929 - has constantly been affiliated to the ISHM and endeavored to get involved in the latter's scientific projects.

The Romanian Society for the History of Pharmacy and the Iasi Branch of the Academy of Medical Sciences in Romania joined RSHM in promoting and supporting the 48th ISHM Congress.

Because of pandemic threats, unfavorable neighborhood political events and air traffic irregularities, the 48th Congress was a hybrid one, with a majority of online participants. It was dedicated to the evolution of Medicine and Pharmacy, to noteworthy personalities and outstanding discoveries and institutions that influenced the history of mankind in different times and geographical areas. The impact of medical bioengineering, nutrition and sports was considered along with the connections between culture, arts, spirituality, ethics and medicine.

Particular attention was given to the progress of modern Romanian medicine, pharmacy and bioengineering against the general and challenging European and international background.

Declared a Royal city and the historical capital of Romania, Iasi is an important multicultural, scientific and academic center, with numerous pioneering initiatives and accomplishments over the centuries. It is the

place of the first scientific society (1830) and the first modern University in Romania (1860), of many cultural movements, a city of artists, writers, poets, musicians and scientists.

"Grigore T. Popa" University of Medicine and Pharmacy, which celebrated its 142nd anniversary in December 2021, together with The Society of Physicians and Naturalists of Iasi, which celebrated its 192nd anniversary in January 2022, the "Queen Maria" Municipal Museum and the City Hall largely encouraged and contributed to the fulfillment of this project.

Nowadays Romania lies not only "at the gates of the Orient", but equally on the Eastern border of the European Community and Iasi has a chief role in joint operational programs set up within European Neighbourhood and Cross-border Partnership strategies.

Under the current circumstances of a more and more digital and globalized world, we tried to successfully overcome the various obstacles and their negative consequences. Besides communications, visits were made to significant monuments and museums belonging to the city of Iasi or located in its surroundings. A trip to the famous monasteries with external frescoes in Northern Moldavia was equally offered to the participants in this scientific event.

The 48th ISHM Congress enjoyed the patronage granted by the Padua University which celebrated 800 years since its foundation.

During this manifestation, 28 countries from the five continents were represented: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Mexico, USA, United Kingdom, France, Belgium, Germany, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Greece, Switzerland, Turkey, Albania, Bulgaria, Slovenia, Ukraine, Republic of Moldavia, Georgia, Russia, Latvia, Australia, Iran, Tunisia, Israel and Romania. Prominent

ISHM members participated onsite: among them there were the President in office and two former presidents, one vice-president, several national delegates and councilors.

In their turn, important Romanian Universities and other medical centers took part in this Congress, too: Iasi, Bucharest, Cluj-Napoca, Timisoara, Constanta, Suceava, Sibiu, Oradea, Brasov, Craiova, Vaslui, Satu-Mare, Gheorghieni, Onesti, Deva, Barlad, Ploiesti, Galati among others. There were about 250 papers and 300 participants, most of which attending the sessions in online mode.

The topics focused on: the International Society for the History of Medicine (ISHM) – Towards a New Century; the 800th Anniversary of the University of Padua; a joint Session of the International Society for the History of Medicine and the International Association of the History of Nephrology (IAHN); International Confluences in Balkan and Eastern European Medicine; International Coordinates in the History of Romanian Medicine and Pharmacy; Scientific Discoveries, Personalities and Institutions relevant to the evolution of Medicine and Pharmacy: the *Bicentenary of Gregor Mendel's Birth*; the Centenary of Insulin Therapy; Bioengineering Progress and Medical Revolutions; Microbiology-Vaccinology-Epidemiology: Epidemics and Pandemics throughout History; the Bicentenary of Louis Pasteur's Birth; HIV and SARS-CoV 2 Infections; Traditional and New Approaches to Epidemic and Pandemic Diseases; Medical and Pharmaceutical Ethics, Bioethics and Deontology – Contemporary Challenges; Medical Paradigms and Evolutionary Transitions. Paleomedicine and Medical Anthropology; Medicine, Spirituality and Culture; Heritage Buildings belonging to medical establishments.

After a walk through the Hall of Lost Steps of the “A.I.Cuza” University of Iasi, and after a visit to the precious “Gheorghe Asachi” Library, the official opening ceremony was held in the superb “Carmen Sylva” Aula Magna of the Technical University of Iasi. Following the words of Acad. Alexandru Vlad Ciurea, addressed on behalf of the Romanian Academy and the Romanian Academy of Medical Sciences, and the greetings of local authorities - the pre-recorded message of the Rector of the University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Prof. Dr. Viorel Scipcariu, the message of Prof. Dr. Irina-Draga Căruntu, president of the University of Medicine and Pharmacy Senate, and that of Dr. Aurica Ichim, manager of the “Regina Maria” Municipal Museum, who at the same time conveyed the message of the Mayor of Iași, Eng. Mihai Chirica -, the floor was taken by Prof. Dr. Pharm. Adriana-Elena Tăerel, president of the Romanian Society for the History of Pharmacy. Her short speech was succeeded by the messages of the president in office of the International Society for the History of Medicine, Prof. Dr. Carlos Viesca (Mexico), of two former presidents of the ISHM - Prof. Dr. Giorgio Zanchin (Italy) and Prof. Dr. Athanasios Diamandopoulos (Greece) -, of the vice-president of ISHM, Prof. Dr. Ana Maria Roso (Argentina), as well as by greetings of other invited personalities, such as Prof. Dr. Dušanka Mičetić-Turk (Slovenia), Prof. Dr. Kadircan Keskinbora (Turkey), Prof. Dr. Gabriel Gurman (Israel) and the representative of Ukraine, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Volodymyr Alkov.

Then the President of the Congress, Prof. Dr. Dana Baran, General Secretary of ISHM and Vice President of the Romanian Society for the History of Medicine, conveyed the greetings expressed by the president of the Romanian Society for the History of Medicine, Prof. Dr. Nicolae

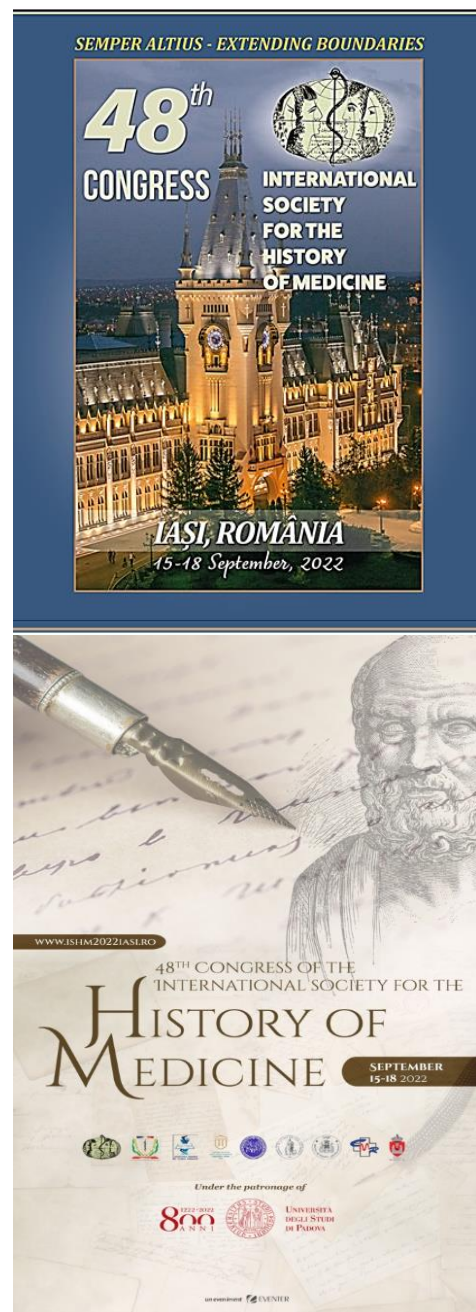
Marcu, national delegate of Romania to ISHM, to whom this Congress owes a lot, and by Prof. Dr. Benone Duțescu, honorary member and former president of the Romanian Society for the History of Medicine, former vice-president of the 22nd ISHM Congress held in Bucharest in 1970, and former national delegate of Romania to the ISHM. Eventually, Prof. Dr. Dana Baran warmly welcomed all the onsite and online participants, wishing everybody a great success for this prestigious event and inviting everybody to “let the story begin: let us step through into another – historical – dimension”!

Combining current issues with tradition, the 48th ISHM Congress undoubtedly gave to many the chance to rediscover almost unknown or ignored realities of the old Continents and the New Worlds, while strengthening cooperation, generating enthusiasm and facing contemporary “medical revolutions” that occur in the everyday life of mankind.

At the end of the official opening, Associate Prof. Dr. Cristian Ungureanu, vice-rector of the “George Enescu” University of Arts in Iasi, delighted the audience with a splendid conference, entitled “The Anatomy of Beauty”.

This scientific manifestation enjoyed unanimous appreciation by the diversity of the topics addressed and the high professional approach in plenary lectures, oral communications, poster presentations and mere debates.

Semper altius !



Congress website:

<https://www.ishm2022iasi.ro>